

### Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 24 and ending on page 3, line 1, with the following replacement, marked up to show the changes:

A1 Japanese Patent Laid-open No. 6-202807 entitled "Letter Input/Display Device" discloses an input device using a mouth mouse. In the device, a table of letters is partly displayed on a display for scrolling by moving a mouth mouse. When a desired letter appears, it can be inputted by clicking the mouth mouse.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 2 and ending on page 3, line 11, with the following replacement, marked up to show the changes:

A2 Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 6-131095 entitled "Japanese Kana Letter Input System Based on Pointing Device" discloses combined use of a pointing device and a push button switch having a single button capable of being depressed in a plurality of different steps. In this case, certain steps of depression of the button are allotted to the sonant consonant mark and p-sound mark of Japanese kana letters. The input of Japanese kana letters is thus simplified by the combination of the 50-letter set displayed on a display and the button.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 25 and ending on page 17, line 19, with the following replacement, marked up to show the changes:

A3 Referring to Figs. 1 (a) and 1 (b) the illustrated embodiment of the present invention is a Japanese letter input device for a portable terminal, which comprises a direction designation unit 10 including a stick or like pointer 11 capable of being moved from center position C0 to any of 12 circumferentially spaced-apart direction designation points C1 to C12 and outputting position data by detecting the position of the stick 11, a data processing unit 20 for selecting a specific letter upon a change in the output of the direction designation unit and outputting a code of the selected letter, a memory 21 for storing processing programs to be executed by the data

K3  
processing unit, and a display unit 30 for displaying the letter inputted by the data processing unit and also operational instructions or the like. By moving the stick 11 from the center position to any one of the direction designation points C1 to C12, the data processing unit 20 determines a consonant. By subsequently moving the stick 1 circumferentially, the unit 20 selects a vowel. Then, by returning the lever 11 to the center position, a letter is determined and inputted. It is possible to provide a determining key 5 for determining consonants and vowels.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 6 and ending on page 24, line 11, with the following replacement, marked up to show the changes:

A4  
Figs. 3(a) and 3(d b) are visual representation of processes of movement of the stick or direction pointer of the direction designation unit. Figs. 4(a) and 4(b) are flow charts representing routines of the information processing unit in response to corresponding to movements of the pointer of the device.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 25 and ending on page 24, line 28, with the following replacement, marked up to show the changes:

A5  
When the user is doing nothing, i.e., with ~~the wit~~ the pointer at the center position ①, the direction designation unit is outputting data "Oh", representing the position C0 to the data processing unit.